SkyDome Syllables

A collection of haiku poems about the 2022 Toronto Blue Jays

By Eric Rosenhek

SkyDome Syllables - A collection of haiku poems about the 2022 Toronto Blue Jays © 2023 by Eric Rosenhek is licensed under Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International. To view a copy of this license , visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/

To my incredible wife, children, family and friends. Thank you for putting up with my silly obsession.

To the Budzinski family: May Julia's memory be a blessing.

It began under the opportunistic skies of Dunedin, Florida. It began later than usual.
A lockout initiated by Commissioner Rob Manfred and Major League Baseball's 30 owners delayed Spring Training and cancelled the first two series of the regular season. However, owners and players settled on a new collective bargaining agreement and a full 162-game schedule was reinstated.
It began with additions: Kevin Gausman, Matt Chapman, Yusei Kikuchi; and subtractions: Robbie Ray, Steven Matz, Marcus Semien.
It began with high expectations after the 2021 Blue Jays missed the playoffs by one game. Assurances were fueled by the star slugger's suggestion that 2022 would be akin to a Hollywood blockbuster.
Fans gathered en masse for the first home opener *at home* since 2019. The excitement was palpable. "This could be the year" was the primary thought and unlike previous seasons, it had merit.
It began…

Regular Season

Game 1: April 8
Blue Jays 10 Rangers 8

Comeback fuelled by the
bat and feet of Teoscar
erased the gross start

Game 2: April 9
Blue Jays 4 Rangers 3

Gausman did his part
Bo and Espinal did theirs
Bullpen held the fort

Game 3: April 10
Rangers 12 Blue Jays 6

Gorgeous beginning
but the middle and ending
was quite disastrous

Game 4: April 11
Blue Jays 3 Yankees 0

Alek led the way
backed by defence as graceful
as movement on stage

Game 5: April 12
Yankees 4 Blue Jays 0

Poor performances
from multiple sources yield
a lousy result

Game 6: April 13
Blue Jays 6 Yankees 4

Powerful Vladdy
Cole could only tip his cap
Wound merely a scratch

Game 7: April 14
Yankees 3 Blue Jays 0

Gausman pitched to win
His teammates performed poorly
and need to repent

Game 8: April 15
Blue Jays 4 Athletics 1

What Stripling started
was finished by Romano
A toast to Jackie

Game 9: April 16
Athletics 7 Blue Jays 5

Rough day for Ryu
Debatable strike three calls
Bad luck all around

Game 10: April 17
Blue Jays 4 Athletics 3

Thinking about Buck
going to war with cancer
as we march forward

Game 11: April 19
Red Sox 2 Blue Jays 1

The routine ground ball
was anything but routine
Error proved costly

Game 12: April 20
Blue Jays 6 Red Sox 1

Surprising homerun
from the unlikely bat of
Raimel Tapia

Game 13: April 21
Blue Jays 3 Red Sox 2

Fenway provided
the beautiful setting for
impressive pitching

Game 14: April 22
Blue Jays 4 Astros 3

Vladdy flies around
the bases majestically
like a free stallion

Game 15: April 23
Blue Jays 3 Astros 2

Espinal and his
vast Herculean muscles
capture victory

Game 16: April 24
Astros 8 Blue Jays 7

This beautiful sport
was simply barbaric to
Jordan Romano

Game 17: April 25
Blue Jays 6 Red Sox 2

Classic Bo Bichette
Always swinging potently
Grand Slam eruption

Game 18: April 26
Blue Jays 6 Red Sox 5

Four late runs allowed
Boston was ready to win
George Springer said "no"

Game 19: April 27
Red Sox 7 Blue Jays 1

The finest moment
was the first big league hit from
journeyman Katoh

Game 20: April 28
Blue Jays 1 Red Sox 0

Day off for Vladdy
but Alek was not bothered
Masterpiece pitching

Game 21: April 29
Astros 11 Blue Jays 7

Plenty of offence
yet ineffective pitching
produced gross defeat

Game 22: April 30
Blue Jays 2 Astros 1

Gorgeous George Springer
swung his mighty baton twice
making the lights dance

Record: 14-8

Game 23: May 1
Blue Jays 3 Astros 2

Splitter from Gausman
reduces Houston to dirt
as Bo salts their earth

Game 24: May 2
Yankees 3 Blue Jays 2

When the victory
served up front on gold platters
is ignored and missed

Game 25: May 3
Yankees 9 Blue Jays 1

The seventh inning

brought misplays and a blown call
Truly hideous

Game 26: May 4
Blue Jays 2 Yankees 1

Angry Aaron Boone
unleashes fire after
getting ejected

Game 27: May 5
Guardians 6 Blue Jays 5

They climbed the mountain
only to fall off before
reaching the summit

Game 28: May 7 (Game One)
Blue Jays 8 Guardians 3

The dormant offence
roused itself after slumber
providing support

Game 29: May 7 (Game Two)
Guardians 8 Blue Jays 2

Teoscar returned
The only positive note
from the ugly loss

Game 30: May 8
Guardians 4 Blue Jays 3

The struggling offence
triggers the angry fanbase
causing loud panic

Game 31: May 10
Yankees 6 Blue Jays 5

Much adversity
and theatrics were conquered
until judgement roared

Game 32: May 11
Yankees 5 Blue Jays 3

Runners left on base
Yankee Stadium specials
Ample frustration

Game 33: May 13
Rays 5 Blue Jays 2

Fitting that Friday
united with the thirteenth
as bad luck hit hard

Game 34: May 14
Blue Jays 5 Rays 1

Tie match moved briskly
until the eighth inning when
fireworks went off

Game 35: May 15
Rays 3 Blue Jays 0

How does a ballpark
named after sweet orange juice
stimulate nightmares?

Game 36: May 16
Blue Jays 6 Mariners 2

Expansion cousins
opposed their former teammate
and were defeated

Game 37: May 17
Blue Jays 3 Mariners 0

The second inning
ultimately presented
the tale of the match

Game 38: May 18
Mariners 5 Blue Jays 1

There are times when the
defeat is just a bad day
on the plan of life

Game 39: May 20
Blue Jays 2 Reds 1

Foolish to assume
that last place Cincinnati
surrenders with haste

Game 40: May 21
Blue Jays 3 Reds 1

Honouring Bichette
shower of electrolytes
drenching Hazel Mae

Game 41: May 22
Reds 3 Blue Jays 2

Prime Joey Votto
Etobicoke's favourite son
wins on home soil

Game 42: May 23
Cardinals 7 Blue Jays 3

This painful defeat
akin to fire on flesh
was preventable

Game 43: May 24
Blue Jays 8 Cardinals 1

Offensive outburst
craved by team and worshippers
finally arrived

Game 44: May 26
Blue Jays 6 Angels 3

They did not fear him
Legendary Ohtani
home runs and strikeouts

Game 45: May 27
Blue Jays 4 Angels 3

The fundamentals
of this game decided to
take the evening off

Game 46: May 28
Blue Jays 6 Angels 5

Early morning time
Stripling records the last out
Drama concluded

Game 47: May 29
Blue Jays 11 Angels 10

Quality pitching
Absent in Orange County
Fireworks present

Game 48: May 31
Blue Jays 6 White Sox 5

Everyone loves Kirk
Two magnificent home runs
Power built to thrill

Record: 28-20 (14-12)

Game 49: June 1
Blue Jays 7 White Sox 3

Electric home runs
assist us in forgetting
the stressful moments

Game 50: June 2
Blue Jays 8 White Sox 3

Stormy skies at first
Alek navigated course
Magical pitching

Game 51: June 3
Twins 9 Blue Jays 3

Disadvantaged Twins
Surprising pit bulls disguised
as weak underdogs

Game 52: June 4
Blue Jays 12 Twins 3

Dreaded shaky start
Berrios would recover
Thirteen sweet strikeouts

Game 53: June 5
Twins 8 Blue Jays 6

The red uniforms
Worn on this random Sunday
Agents of bad luck

Game 54: June 6
Blue Jays 8 Royals 0

Odd weather delay
did not affect Stripling or
his earnest teammates

Game 55: June 7
Blue Jays 7 Royals 0

At every moment
Kirk or Bichette stood on base
viewing Missouri

Game 56: June 8
Royals 8 Blue Jays 4

Lousy afternoon
from the stadium rubber
was royally felt

Game 57: June 10
Blue Jays 10 Tigers 1

Not even the rain
would stop the pitching or bats
or those from Windsor

Game 58: June 11
Tigers 3 Blue Jays 1

Moreno arrived
but the gas tank was empty
Only one run scored

Game 59: June 12
Blue Jays 6 Tigers 0

Nine shutout innings
from the man called "Chicken Strip"
and the bullpen crew

Game 60: June 13
Blue Jays 11 Orioles 1

Exclamation mark
An object turned into dust
Dejected pitcher

Game 61: June 14
Orioles 6 Blue Jays 5

Locating pitches
performed the defeating role
Offence falling short

Game 62: June 15
Blue Jays 7 Orioles 6

Vladdy saved the day
avoiding true disaster
Thank you Brandon Hyde

Game 63: June 16
Orioles 10 Blue Jays 2

Harrowing Gausman
Rare error from Espinal
Awful third inning

Game 64: June 17
Yankees 12 Blue Jays 3

Powerful Yankees
Home runs void of compassion
Awful fifth inning

Game 65: June 18
Yankees 4 Blue Jays 0

Frustrating Yankees
Not even the red jerseys
could derail their streak

Game 66: June 19
Blue Jays 10 Yankees 9

Bleak situation
Bat flips from big swings change course
Dramatic fashion

Game 67: June 20
White Sox 8 Blue Jays 7

The comeback fell short
Pitching trouble on Southside
Unable to fix

Game 68: June 21
White Sox 7 Blue Jays 6

Deflating defeat
Many reasons to ponder
Four hours in length

Game 69: June 22
Blue Jays 9 White Sox 5

Ejection before
the afternoon match begins
preluding the win

Game 70: June 24
Blue Jays 9 Brewers 4

Manoah and Kirk
eclipsed Wisconsin's talent
and refused to wane

Game 71: June 25
Brewers 5 Blue Jays 4

Kikuchi struggled
Fielding error did not help
Not enough late runs

Game 72: June 26
Brewers 10 Blue Jays 3

Berrios struggled
Rowdy fulfilled his revenge
Concern everywhere

Game 73: June 27
Blue Jays 7 Red Sox 2

Kevin struck out ten
Electrifying home runs
Refreshing result

Game 74: June 28
Blue Jays 6 Red Sox 5

After Kirk reached base
Vladdy told his manager
he would seize the win

Game 75: June 29
Red Sox 6 Blue Jays 5

The Struggling bullpen
Phelps nor Mayza held the fort
No magic this night
Game 76: June 30
Blue Jays 4 Rays 1

Kikuchi stood firm
as everyone doubted him
Six gorgeous innings

Record: 43-33 (15-13)

Game 77: July 1
Blue Jays 9 Rays 2

The nation's birthday
Five doubles in one inning
Blast from Gurriel

Game 78: July 2 (Game One)
Rays 6 Blue Jays 2

Missile strikes ankle
Injured Gausman yields to fear

Fate of series changed

Game 79: July 2 (Game Two)
Rays 11 Blue Jays 5

Rare Saturday night
Hatch cannot stop the onslaught
Cursed red threads at play

Game 80: July 3
Rays 7 Blue Jays 3

Sadness and sorrow
Taking the field and grieving
Score did not matter

Game 81: July 4
Athletics 5 Blue Jays 1

Independence Day
Offence weak like fireworks
soaking in water

Game 82: July 5
Athletics 5 Blue Jays 3

Location issues
visibly plague Kikuchi
as anger rises

Game 83: July 6
Blue Jays 2 Athletics 1

Chapman knows Oakland
He sends a ball to the seats
Bragging rights secured

Game 84: July 7
Mariners 8 Blue Jays 3

The freak occurrence

of ball deflecting off glove
and over the wall

Game 85: July 8
Mariners 5 Blue Jays 2

The vacant offence
left poor Romo out to dry
against his old club

Game 86: July 9
Mariners 2 Blue Jays 1

Alek and Robbie
Former teammates turned rivals
Tight pants succeeded

Game 87: July 10
Mariners 6 Blue Jays 5

Routine plays not made
Glove breaks for the second time
Swept in Seattle

Game 88: July 12
Blue Jays 4 Phillies 3

Graceful George Springer
Soaring in air peacefully
Spectacular catch

Game 89: July 13
Blue Jays 8 Phillies 2

First game for Schneider
Handsome pitching and hitting
Statement clearly made

Game 90: July 14
Royals 3 Blue Jays 1

Lacking regulars
mystical Royals baffle
the offence and fans

Game 91: July 15
Blue Jays 8 Royals 1

Chapman slashes air
Obliterated baseball
Second deck landing

Game 92: July 16
Blue Jays 6 Royals 5

Defeat imminent
when Yogi Berra magic
came honourably
Game 93: July 17
Blue Jays 4 Royals 2

Superstar slugger
broke the deadlock brilliantly
Fly to Hollywood

Game 94: July 22
Blue Jays 28 Red Sox 5

Fenway adventure
Grand slam blessed with good fortune
Fly Tapia Fly

Game 95: July 23
Blue Jays 4 Red Sox 1

Alek is in charge
Do not challenge his presence
Walk away head down

Game 96: July 24
Blue Jays 8 Red Sox 4

Multiple errors
makes Cora stoic and lost
as brooms sweep away

Game 97: July 26
Blue Jays 10 Cardinals 3

Buck came home today
Greeted with love and applause
Gifted with home runs

Game 98: July 27
Cardinals 6 Blue Jays 1

Treat to watch Pujols
Shame he went yard on Richards
Legend seals the win

Game 99: July 28
Blue Jays 5 Tigers 3

Two scoops for Chapman
Enough to hold off Detroit
Will Geroge be alright?

Game 100: July 29
Tigers 4 Blue Jays 2

Missile strikes elbow
Switch injury with insult
Forget this outcome

Game 101: July 30
Blue Jays 5 Tigers 3

Pure satisfaction
when Teoscar dropped his bat
capturing the lead

Game 102: July 31
Blue Jays 4 Tigers 1

Machine went to work
showing his best on Peacock
and to relatives

Record: 57-45 (14-12)

Game 103: August 2
Blue Jays 3 Rays 1

Kevin grabbed a brush
and painted a beautiful
well-pitched masterpiece

Game 104: August 3
Rays 3 Blue Jays 2

The lunchtime special
of baseball and orange juice
lacked sweet victory

Game 105: August 4
Blue Jays 9 Twins 3

Alek was not hurt
Outstretched hand informs dugout
Nation feels relief

Game 106: August 5
Twins 6 Blue Jays 5

Heartbreaking affair
Comeback victory in reach
Misplays cause defeat

Game 107: August 6
Twins 7 Blue Jays 3

Tim sacrifices
his body for the great cause
unsuccessfully

Game 108: August 7
Blue Jays 3 Twins 2

Sanchez blocked the plate
Call was overturned off-site
Successful challenge

Game 109: August 8
Orioles 7 Blue Jays 4

Kikuchi struggles
Fans demand his removal
Schneider disagrees
Game 110: August 9
Orioles 6 Blue Jays 5

Bullpen and Odor
ruined two homers from Bo
after the rain fell

Game 111: August 12
Guardians 8 Blue Jays 0

Please help me forget
what developed in this match
and its final score

Game 112: August 13
Blue Jays 2 Guardians 1

White to Romano
All guarding the Guardians
Victory achieved

Game 113: August 14
Guardians 7 Blue Jays 2

The summer darkness
leads to frustration online
and needless attacks

Game 114: August 15
Orioles 7 Blue Jays 3

Kikuchi exits
Angry mob armed with torches
demand removal

Game 115: August 16
Orioles 4 Blue Jays 2

Early excitement
becomes anger and despair
Joy faded away

Game 116: August 17
Blue Jays 6 Orioles 1

Six perfect innings
Sensational Stripling start
Ripe offence explodes

Game 117: August 18
Blue Jays 9 Yankees 2

Vladdy offered praise
to the famous right field porch
and was rewarded

Game 118: August 19
Blue Jays 4 Yankees 0

Kevin was the star
on Apple Television
Local listings checke d

Game 119: August 20
Blue Jays 5 Yankees 2

Mitch is our new friend
Brought his parents to the Bronx
Held his position

Game 120: August 21
Yankees 4 Blue Jays 2

The Audi logo
was the demarcation line
for Alek and Cole

Game 121: August 23
Blue Jays 9 Red Sox 3

Eight runs with two outs
occurred in the third inning
of Bradley's return

Game 122: August 24
Blue Jays 3 Red Sox 2

George took advantage
of the opportunity
and the green monster

Game 123: August 25
Blue Jays 6 Red Sox 5

Playing with matches
Walking away with small burns
and the Fenway sweep

Game 124: August 26
Angels 12 Blue Jays 0

Arrival at dawn
Batting practice was cancelled
Unsurprising Score

Game 125: August 27
Angels 2 Blue Jays 0

Celebrated past
Pitching duel for the present
Vicious Ohtani

Game 126: August 28
Angels 8 Blue Jays 3

Schneider was angry
at missed opportunities
and lack of focus

Game 127: August 29
Blue Jays 5 Cubs 4

Darkness all around
until Danny used his bat
to create sunshine

Game 128: August 30
Blue Jays 5 Cubs 3

Stroman on the mound
Left satisfied with the lead
Watched it disappear

Game 129: August 31
Cubs 7 Blue Jays 5

Another comeback
encouraged by quiet Kirk
fell short of the mark

Record: 70-59 (13-15)

Game 130: September 2
Blue Jays 4 Pirates 0

Where three rivers meet
Alek executes his craft
for those who wear blue

Game 131: September 3
Blue Jays 4 Pirates 1

Bullpen day announced

Holding the fort long enough
for Bichette magic

Game 132: September 4
Blue Jays 4 Pirates 3

There are victories
worthy of space in textbooks
This triumph was not

Game 133: September 5 (Game One)
Blue Jays 7 Orioles 3

Old home for Kevin
Striking out orange hitters
Conquering the balk

Game 134: September 5 (Game Two)
Blue Jays 8 Orioles 4

Hats released en masse
Honouring Bichette's output
Two wins in one day

Game 135: September 6
Orioles 9 Blue Jays 6

Camden Yards chaos
Poor pitching and frustration
tell the rough story

Game 136: September 7
Blue Jays 4 Orioles 1

True ace of the staff
Alek provided eight frames
for grateful teammates

Game 137: September 9
Blue Jays 4 Rangers 3

Homecoming for Ross
Backed by unearthly Bichette
and hero Danny

Game 138: September 10
Blue Jays 11 Rangers 7
Ball dances on leg
Finds home inside Mayza's glove
Third out recorded

Game 139: September 11
Rangers 4 Blue Jays 1

Bullpen day returned
Results were underwhelming
Forget and forward

Game 140: September 12
Blue Jays 3 Rays 2

Bo the glorious
Great heroics yet again
Thunder from the seats

Game 141: September 13 (Game One)
Rays 4 Blue Jays 2

Third inning follies
clinched the outcome of the match
despite late drama

Game 142: September 13 (Game Two)
Blue Jays 7 Rays 2

Bleak outlook well versed
until Merrifield stepped up
and changed the channel

Game 143: September 14
Blue Jays 5 Rays 1

Centennial mark
for home runs was achieved by
Superstar Vladdy

Game 144: September 15
Rays 11 Blue Jays 0

An afternoon tale
of missed opportunities
and two rough innings

Game 145: September 16
Blue Jays 6 Orioles 3

Chapman homered twice
A three-run blast from Springer
Bullpen day success

Game 146: September 17
Blue Jays 6 Orioles 3

Was much to Marvel
Playing like superheroes
Red brought victory

Game 147: September 18
Orioles 5 Blue Jays 4

Even the best arms
have imperfect moments that
lead to harsh losses

Game 148: September 20
Blue Jays 18 Phillies 11

Mastercraft pitching
was not present with the score
Akin to football

Game 149: September 21
Phillies 4 Blue Jays 3

Bad luck fell upon
the bullpen late in the night
causing much anger
Game 150: September 22
Rays 10 Blue Jays 5

Awful pitching night
Berrios discourse grows loud
Panicked opinions

Game 151: September 23
Rays 10 Blue Jays 6

Was just like boxing
Two bad blows but recovered
Knocked out in the eighth

Game 152: September 24
Blue Jays 3 Rays 1

Everything on edge
Whit Merrifield saved the day
Home run of the year

Game 153: September 25
Blue Jays 7 Rays 1

Home runs on Sunday
pause Tampa stadium curse
earning series split

Game 154: September 26
Blue Jays 3 Yankees 2

Theatrics displayed
Electrolytes soak Vladdy
We live in his house

Game 155: September 27
Yankees 5 Blue Jays 2

Yesterday's hero
commits inexcusable
baserunning mistake

Game 156: September 28
Yankees 8 Blue Jays 3

Forget the record
Great Judge took back momentum
Prize slips through fingers

Game 157: September 30
Blue Jays 9 Red Sox 0

Playoff ticket punched
Defeating Boston followed
Sweet clubhouse party

Record: 88-69 (18-10)

Game 158: October 1
Blue Jays 10 Red Sox 0

Night of partying
did not affect the talent
or final outcome

Game 159: October 2
Blue Jays 6 Red Sox 3

Final dance at home
Fireworks from Teoscar
No sign of blister

Game 160: October 3
Blue Jays 5 Orioles 1

The wet conditions
could not arrest Merrifield
until the eighth frame

Game 161: October 5 (Game One)
Orioles 5 Blue Jays 4

Meaningless result
but memorable game for
Gabby and Otto

Game 162: October 5 (Game Two)
Blue Jays 5 Orioles 1

Season conclusion
The Wild Card round established
Postseason ready

Final Record: 92-70 (4-1)

Second in the American League East, seven games behind the first-place New York Yankees. Captured the top Wild Card spot in the AL.

Wild Card Round

Game 1: October 7
Mariners 4 Blue Jays 0

Dejected Alek
processes his performance
and valued lessons

Game 2: October 8
Mariners 10 Blue Jays 9

Shocking implosion
turns the beautiful setting
into tragedy

Seattle wins 2-0

It ended shockingly. Two games, two losses. One defeat was unfortunate, while the other was excruciating.
Stunned silence swept over the stadium as the shortstop and center fielder lay motionless on the field. It was a collision that ultimately guaranteed an

early postseason exit.
It ended after a change in management midway through the season. Mr. Montoyo had gone as far as he could, but it seemed - reportedly - confidence in him was nil.
It ended following many ebbs and flows. Aggravation and ecstasy took multiple turns in the zeitgeist. Can anyone be blamed for feeling worn out?
It ended with bitterness, but the team and fanbase carry on.
It ended…

Web: www.dnjt.wordpress.com
Twitter: @TheHek
Facebook: www.facebook.com/definitelynotjaystalk
Instagram: @the_hek